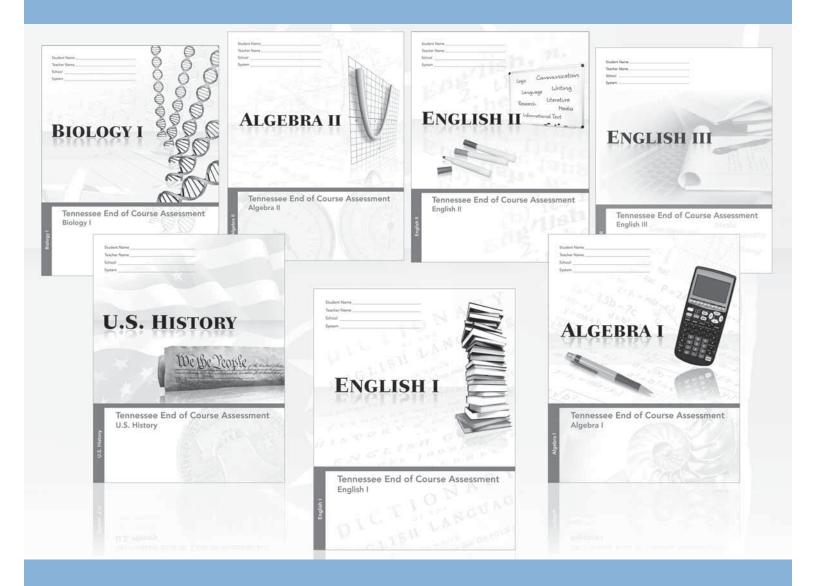
# **Guide to Test Report Interpretation**



2011–2012 Tennessee End of Course Assessments



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#### Introduction

The *Guide to Test Report Interpretation* was developed by the Tennessee Department of Education to assist educators in understanding End of Course (EOC) assessment results. The results presented in the EOC reports are an important source of test information and can be helpful in making important decisions regarding instructional needs for classes and individual students. The test scores reported are based on a sample of all possible test questions and are only one measure of a student's performance. It is important to consider multiple sources of student achievement when making decisions about students' instructional placement.

The Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) includes EOC assessments for students enrolled in Algebra I, Algebra II, Biology I, English I, English III, and U.S. History. The EOC assessments are administered to students upon their completion of the aforementioned courses. The EOC assessments also include an English Linguistically Simplified Assessment (ELSA) for Algebra I and English II. The ELSA is given to students who are eligible to receive English as a Second Language (ESL) services, including T1/T2 students. The language for ELSA test items was simplified to help measure the intended knowledge or skill; however, the knowledge or skill being assessed was not simplified.

The EOC assessments are criterion-referenced, multiple-choice tests that measure Performance Indicators defined in the Tennessee Curriculum Standards. New math, science, and English language arts curriculum standards were implemented in Fall 2009. The social studies curriculum standards were not revised. For additional information on the state curriculum standards, access the Tennessee Department of Education site at <a href="http://www.state.tn.us/education/curriculum.shtml">http://www.state.tn.us/education/curriculum.shtml</a>.

Each test item is aligned to a Performance Indicator. The Performance Indicators are grouped into Reporting Categories for the reports described in this guide.

Student mastery of the total test and each Reporting Category is reported as the Achievement Level. Achievement Levels (Advanced, Proficient, Basic, Below Basic)\* were established through intensive standard-setting procedures, which included Tennessee educators and were approved by the State Board of Education.

Examples of questions for each TCAP EOC assessment are provided in item samplers and practice tests available at <a href="http://www.state.tn.us/education/assessment/sec\_samplers.shtml">http://www.state.tn.us/education/assessment/sec\_samplers.shtml</a>.

An overview of the TCAP EOC assessments and additional resources can be found at http://www.state.tn.us/education/assessment/secondary.shtml.

Should you have questions regarding TCAP EOC assessment results, please direct inquiries to the following:

TCAP End of Course Assessment Program
Office of Assessment, Evaluation and Research
1252 Foster Avenue
Hardison Building
Nashville, TN 37243

Phone: (615) 741-0720 E-mail: tned.assessment@tn.gov

<sup>\*</sup>Because the U.S. History curriculum standards were not revised, the Achievement Levels remain Advanced, Proficient, and Below Proficient. English III Achievement Levels will be provided after the Summer 2012 Standard Setting.

A variety of TCAP EOC reports are available to educators via PearsonAccess. PearsonAccess is a secure website that requires a login and password. The chart below lists the report name, the distribution (e.g., student/parent, school, system), and the delivery format (e.g., print, PDF, CD). The TCAP EOC reports are posted on PearsonAccess at <a href="http://pearsonaccess.com">http://pearsonaccess.com</a>.

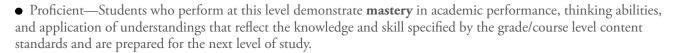
Report	Distribution	Print	PDF/Print on Demand	CD
Individual Profile Report (IPR)	Student/Parent	•	•	•
Student Label	School	•	•	•
Class Report	School		•	•
Achievement Level Summary Report	School System		•	•
Reporting Category Performance Report	School System		•	•
Disaggregation Summary Report	School System		•	•
Quick Score Report*	School		•	•

<sup>\*</sup>EOC Quick Score Reports are posted on RANDA/EdTools at <a href="https://tdoe.randasolutions.com">https://tdoe.randasolutions.com</a>.

#### **General Report Features**

- A Displays the name of the report.
- B Specifies the assessment (End of Course) and administration (fall, spring, or summer).
- Indicates the teacher, system, and/or school.
- Identifies content area.
- Indicates test form.
- Provides a purpose identifying the reason for the report.
- G Presents a graphical representation of Achievement Levels for Algebra I, Algebra II, Biology I, English I, English II, and English III:
  - ★ Advanced—Students who perform at this level demonstrate

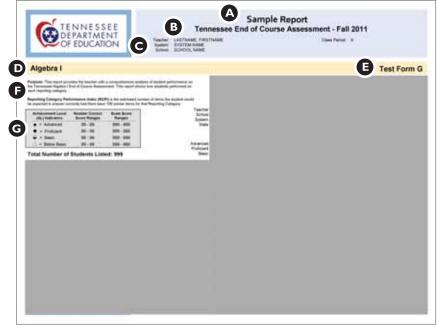
**superior** mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade/course level content standards and are significantly prepared for the next level of study.



- Basic—Students who perform at this level demonstrate **partial** mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade/course level content standards and are minimally prepared for the next level of study.
- △ Below Basic—Students who perform at this level **have not** demonstrated mastery in academic performance, thinking abilities, and application of understandings that reflect the knowledge and skill specified by the grade/ course level content standards and are not prepared for the next level of study.

Because the U.S. History curriculum standards were not revised, the following Achievement Levels in existence for the course since 2004 were retained:

- ★ Advanced—Demonstrates an understanding of the application of complex concepts and skills of the content area.
- Proficient—Demonstrates general understanding of the essential concepts and skills of the content area.
- Below Proficient—Demonstrates a lack of understanding of the essential concepts and skills of the content area.



# Individual Profile Report (IPR)

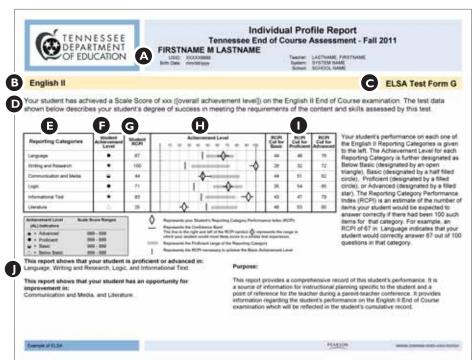
The Individual Profile Report (IPR) is intended primarily for parents and students. The IPR provides information regarding a student's performance on the total test and in each Reporting Category. Reporting Category Performance Index (RCPI) results can be used to help identify areas of student strengths and opportunities for improvement in each Reporting Category. This report provides important information that can be used for instructional planning specific to the student and a point of reference for the teacher during a parent-teacher conference. Additional information from a student's classroom performance is also essential in sound instructional planning.

- A States the student's name and identifying information.
- B Identifies content area.
- Identifies test form and indicates if ELSA was taken for Algebra I or English II.
- Offers a brief description of how the student scored on the test. For U.S. History, this section contains the Number Correct instead of the Scale Score.
- E Lists the Reporting Categories, which serve as indicators of the student's performance in different content skill areas. Performance on each Reporting Category identifies areas of strength and opportunities for improvement.
- Gives a graphic representation of how the student performed in each Reporting Category. Achievement Level indicators are labeled Advanced, Proficient, Basic, and Below Basic. Note: Because the U.S. History curriculum standards were not revised, the following achievement levels are still used for that subject area only: Advanced, Proficient, and Below Proficient.
- **G** Shows the student's score for each Reporting Category based on the Reporting Category Performance Index (RCPI). The RCPI is an estimate of the number of items the student would be expected to answer correctly if there had been 100 such items for that category.
- Displays a bar graph representing how the student performed in each Reporting Category based on the RCPI. The graph details the student's score relative to achieving proficiency.
  - The Diamond (  $\Diamond$  ) symbolizes the student's Reporting Category Performance Index (RCPI).
  - The Bar ( ) indicates the proficient range of the reporting category.

The line to the right and left of the student RCPI symbol (—) represents the range where the student would most likely score in a similar test experience.

The Hash Mark ( | ) represents the RCPI necessary to achieve the Basic Achievement Level. Note: Because the U.S. History curriculum standards were not revised, the bar graph will provide slightly different information. The RCPI necessary to achieve the Basic Achievement level will not be included.

- Shows the RCPI needed for each Reporting Category to reach the Advanced, Proficient, or Basic Level. Note: Because the U.S. History curriculum standards were not revised, the bar graph will provide slightly different information. The RCPI necessary to achieve the Basic Achievement level will not be included. (Note: The RCPI cuts represented in the sample IPR are for illustration purposes only.)
- Indicates the student's strengths and opportunities for improvement.



## **Student Label**

- A States the student's name and identifying information.
- **B** Specifies the test date.
- **G** Indicates the system, school, and teacher.
- Identifies the content area, student's grade level, and test form.
- **©** Displays the number correct (raw score), scale score,\* and Achievement Level.
- Provides met/not met status pertinent to the Gateway diploma requirement (Algebra I, Biology I, and English II only).

# LASTNAME, FIRSTNAME M.

USID: 999999999 B Test Date: Fall 2011

System: SYSTEM NAME - 99999

School: SCHOOL NAME - 9999

Teacher: LASTNAME, FIRSTNAME

Algebra I Grade: 99 Form: G

Number Correct: 99
 Scale Score: 999
 Level: Proficient

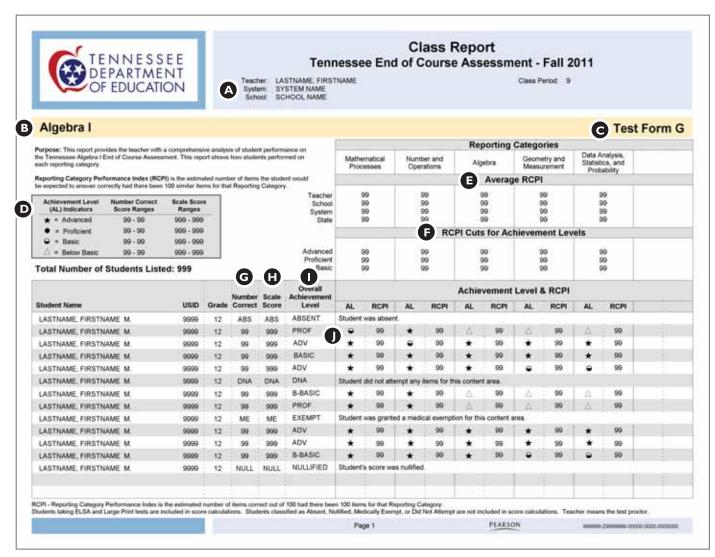
Gateway Diploma Requirement: MET

<sup>\*</sup>Scale scores are not provided on the U.S. History labels.

#### **Class Report**

The Class Report provides the teacher with a comprehensive analysis of student performance on the TCAP EOC assessment. In addition, the report shows each student's Achievement Level and RCPI in each Reporting Category of a content area.

- A Indicates the teacher name, class period, school name, and system name.
- **B** Identifies content area.
- G Identifies test form.
- Outlines the ranges for the number correct and scale score for each Achievement Level for all content areas except U.S. History.
- **E** Lists the Average RCPI for each Reporting Category for the teacher, school, system, and state.
- **E** Lists the RCPI cuts required to reach the Advanced, Proficient, and Basic levels (for U.S. History, only the RCPI cut for the Proficient level is listed).
- **G** Displays the number correct for each student.
- **H** Shows the scale score for each student for all content areas except U.S. History.
- Provides the Overall Achievement Level for each student.
- **①** Gives the Achievement Level symbol and RCPI for each Reporting Category for each student.



## **School Achievement Level Summary Report**

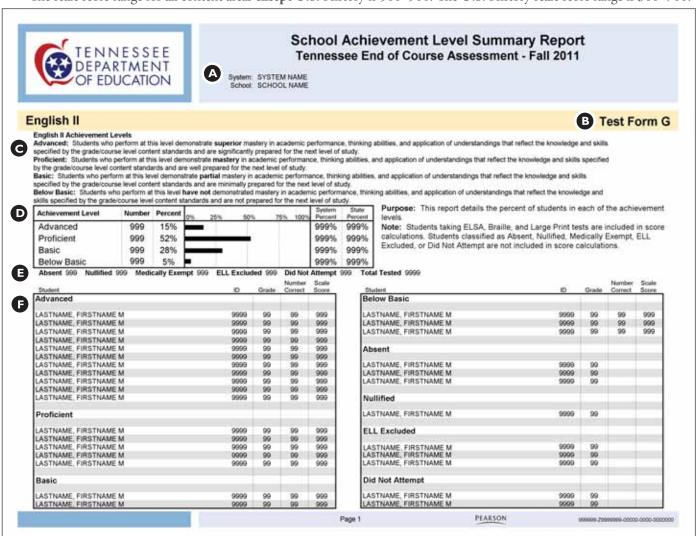
The School Achievement Level Summary Report provides administrators with a comprehensive analysis of student performance on the TCAP EOC assessment.

- A Indicates the system name and school name.
- B Identifies test form.
- **©** Features the Achievement Levels and Descriptors. Note: Because the U.S. History curriculum standards were not revised, the following Achievement Levels are still used for that subject area only: Advanced, Proficient, and Below Proficient.
- Displays the number and percent of students at each Achievement Level, including a graphical representation of the percent for the school as well as the percent of students at each Achievement Level for the system and state.
- Provides the numbers of students Absent, Nullified, Medically Exempt, ELL Excluded (for English II only), and the total tested for the school.
- Presents the student information and score results grouped by Achievement Level or non-tested status with the following information:

Student name Student Unique Student Identification Number (USID) Student grade level Number correct

Scale score attained

The scale score range for all content areas **except** U.S. History is 500–900. The U.S. History scale score range is 300–700.

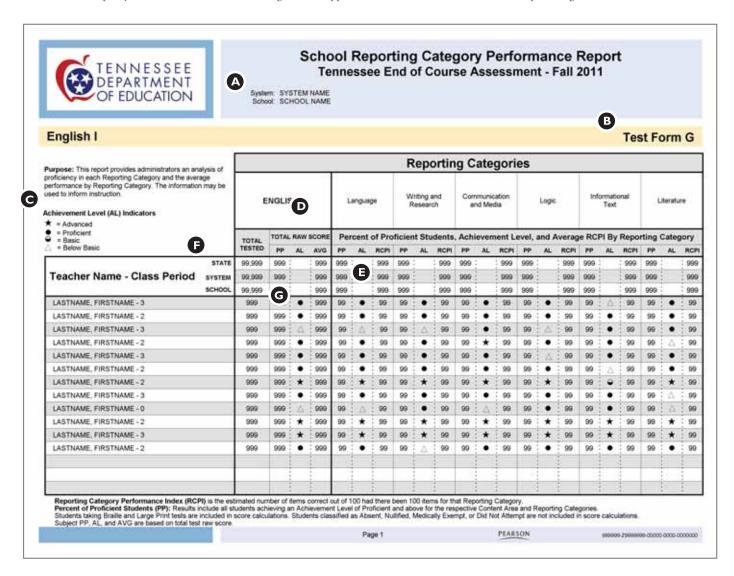


# **School Reporting Category Performance Report**

The School Reporting Category Performance Report provides administrators with a comprehensive analysis of student proficiency in each Reporting Category and the average performance by Reporting Category on the TCAP EOC assessment. The results may be used to analyze curriculum strengths and opportunities for improvement. This report is also available at the system level.

- A Shows the system name and school name.
- B Identifies test form.
- Features the Achievement Level Indicators. Note: Because the U.S. History curriculum standards were not revised, the following achievement levels are still used for that subject area only: Advanced, Proficient, and Below Proficient.
- Indicates the total number of test items each student answered correctly.
- Displays percent of students who were Advanced or Proficient (PP)\*, Average Achievement Level (AL), and Average RCPI in each Reporting Category for each class.
- Includes the total number of students tested at the state, system, and school levels.
- **G** Shows the total percent of students in each class who were Proficient and above.

\*In some instances, the combined total of the percent of Advanced students and Proficient students may differ slightly from the Total Percent Proficient (PP). This discrepancy sometimes result when rounding rules are applied to the calculations used to attain the percentages.

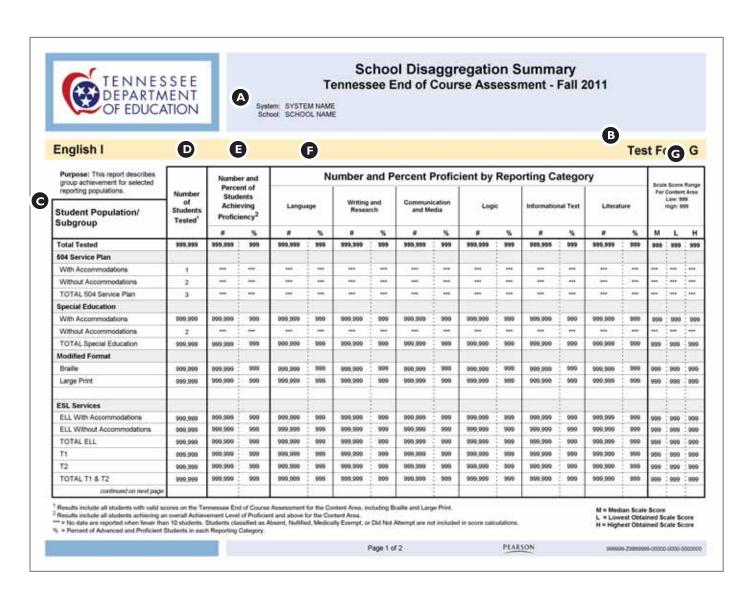


#### **School Disaggregation Summary Report**

The School Disaggregation Summary Report displays the number and percent proficient by Reporting Category in a content area for the selected subgroups. This report is also available at the system level.

- A Identifies the system name and school name.
- B Identifies test form.
- **6** Displays the subgroups that are included in this report.
- Shows the number of students testing in each subgroup.
- **E** Gives the number and percent of students for the subgroups listed who achieved proficiency.
- Provides the number and percent proficient in each Reporting Category in a subject area.\*
- **G** Lists median, low, and high scale score for each subgroup.

<sup>\*</sup>In some instances, the combined total of the percent of Advanced students and Proficient students may differ slightly from the Total Percent Proficient (PP). This discrepancy sometimes result when rounding rules are applied to the calculations used to attain the percentages.

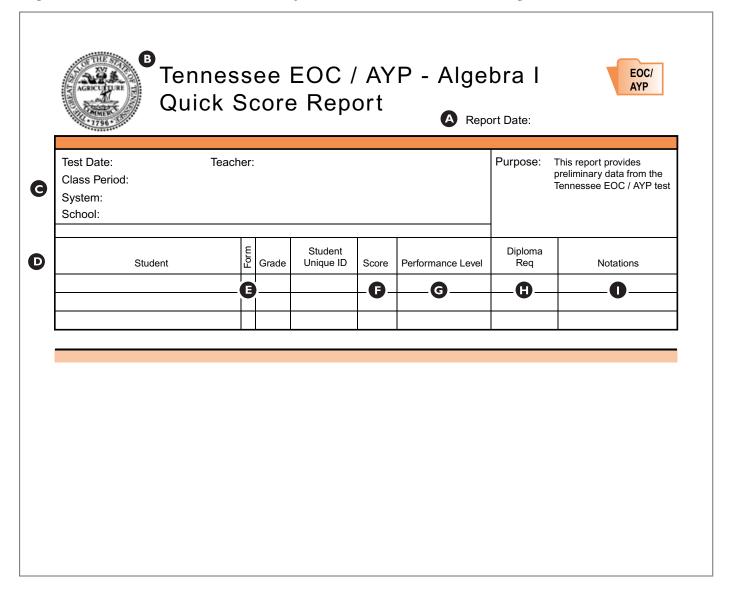


# **Quick Score Report**

The Quick Score Report provides preliminary data from the TCAP EOC assessment. EOC Quick Score Reports are posted on RANDA/EdTools at <a href="https://tdoe.randasolutions.com">https://tdoe.randasolutions.com</a>.

- A Indicates when the Quick Score Report was generated.
- **B** Displays the name of the report and specifies the content area being reported.
- Indicates the administration, teacher, system, school, and class period.
- **D** Gives each student's name, grade, and USID.
- **E** Identifies the test form.
- **F** Displays the numeric score (raw score for U.S. History).
- **G** Designates Achievement Level/Performance Level.\*
- Provides, if applicable, met/not met status (for Algebra I, Biology I, and English II only).
- Indicates, if applicable, Nullified, Absent, Medically Exempt, or ELL Excluded.

<sup>\*</sup>English III Achievement Levels/Performance Levels will be provided after the Summer 2012 Standard Setting.



#### **Glossary**

**Achievement Level**—A set of standards used to interpret student performance on state assessments (Advanced, Proficient, Basic, Below Basic). Because the U.S. History curriculum standards were not revised, the following achievement levels are still used for that subject area only: Advanced, Proficient, and Below Proficient.

**Achievement Level on each Reporting Category**—The level of achievement determined on the basis of the Reporting Category Performance Index for a Reporting Category.

**Criterion-referenced interpretation**—A test that is intended for comparing each test taker's score with one or more fixed standards of performance. What matters is whether the test taker's score meets the specified standard, regardless of how well or how poorly other test takers perform.

ELSA—English Linguistically Simplified Assessment.

**EOC**—End of Course.

Overall Achievement Level—The level of achievement determined on the basis of the total test scale score.

**Performance Indicator**—The specific task or objective that indicates understanding of a content standard. EOC test items are developed to align with Performance Indicators.

Number correct score—Also referred to as the raw score. The sum of the correct answers earned by a test taker.

**Reporting Category**—A subset of items that are associated with a clearly defined skill domain. Also referred to as a content objective, benchmark, or strand in other contexts.

**RCPI**—Reporting Category Performance Index. An estimate of the number of items a student would be expected to answer correctly if there had been 100 similar items for that Reporting Category.

RCPI confidence band—The range of scores a student would attain in a similar test experience.

**Scale score**—A score that maintains the same meaning in each test administration. A scale score is statistically converted from a raw score and is widely used in determining whether a student's performance has met an achievement standard.

**Standard setting**—The methodology used to define levels of achievement.

**TCAP**—Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program.



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